

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 REYKJA 00010 071343Z

43

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 INR-05 CIAE-00

SP-02 EB-03 OES-02 RSC-01 /041 W

----- 079725

R 071200Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5093

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L REYKJAVIK 0010

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR EFIS IC UR

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER AGUSTSSON TO VISIT USSR IN FEBRUARY

1. THIS EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT FOREIGN MINISTER EINAR AGUSTSSON, HIS WIFE, AND MFA SEC GEN PETUR THORSTEINSSON WILL VISIT USSR FOR ONE WEEK COMMENCING FEBRUARY 4 AS OFFICIAL GUESTS OF SOVIET GOVT. THIS IS THE TRIP THAT WAS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE LAST MAY BUT WAS POSTPONED BECAUSE OF ICELAND'S GOVT CRISIS.

2. FOR PAST YEAR SOVIETS HAD BEEN PRESSING FONMIN TO MAKE THIS VISIT AND WHILE THERE TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT SETTING UP A JOINT ICELAND-SOVIET COMMISSION ON FISH AND MARINE LIFE RESEARCH IN VICINITY ICELAND. UNDER THE PROPOSAL THE USSR WOULD PERIODICALLY SEND TEAMS OF SOVIET SCIENTISTS TO ICELAND. ICELAND HAS CONSISTENTLY REFUSED SIGN SUCH AN AGREEMENT. SOVIET AMBASSADOR WAS ADVISED ON JANUARY 3 THAT INVITATION FOR VISIT ACCEPTED ON UNDERSTANDING ICELAND WILL NOT SIGN ABOVE-MENTIONED PROPOSAL. IT WAS AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT FONMIN AGUSTSSON WILL SIGN A CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENT INCREASING NUMBERS OF EXCHANGES.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 REYKJA 00010 071343Z

3. PETUR THORSTEINSSON BEING SENT ALONG BECAUSE OF HIS KNOWLEDGE OF USSR AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGE (HE WAS FORMERLY AMBASSADOR TO USSR), AND PROBABLY ALSO TO COUNTERACT CURRENT ICELANDIC AMBASSADOR TO USSR HANNES JONSSON. LATTER IS KNOWN TO HAVE IRRITATED AND EMBARRASSED GOI AND PARTICULARLY MFA. EXAMPLE: DURING JONSSON'S COURTESY CALL ON PORDGONY, HE COMMENDED USSR FOR ITS STAND ON FREEDOM OF INFORMATION, ETC., AT CSCE AND CRITICIZED USG, CITING DANGERS OF "CULTURAL POLUTION AND PENETRATION" WHICH "ICELAND HAD EXPERIENCED" BECAUSE OF THE KEFLAVIK BASE TV. EXAMPLE: WHEN NEW ICELANDIC GOVT WAS FORMED JONSSON WAS REPORTED TO HAVE CIRCULATED LETTER TO HIS ICELANDIC AMBASSADORIAL COLLEAGUES CRITICIZING THE NEW LEADERSHIP. ANOTHER EXAMPLE: DESPITE INSTRUCTIONS TO CONTRARY, JONSSON TRIED TO "SOLVE" ICELAND'S FINANCIAL PROBLEMS WITH USSR IN ADVANCE OF COMMERCE MINISTER OLAFUR JOHANNESSEN'S VISIT TO MOSCOW ON THIS SUBJECT A COUPLE OF MONTHS AGO. IT IS BELIEVED HE EXACERBATED THE PROBLEM.

IRVING

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES, MINISTERIAL VISITS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975REYKJA00010
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750006-0258
From: REYKJAVIK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750172/aaaacloim.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <29 SEP 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FOREIGN MINISTER AGUSTSSON TO VISIT USSR IN FEBRUARY
TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, IC, UR, (AGUSTSSON, EINAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006